

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
101ST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2021**

Introduced by Senator McCann

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 686

AN ACT to amend 1976 PA 399, entitled “An act to protect the public health; to provide for supervision and control over public water supplies; to prescribe the powers and duties of the department of environmental quality; to provide for the submission of plans and specifications for waterworks systems and the issuance of construction permits therefor; to provide for capacity assessments and source water assessments of public water supplies; to provide for the classification of public water supplies and the examination, certification and regulation of persons operating those systems; to provide for continuous, adequate operation of privately owned, public water supplies; to authorize the promulgation of rules to carry out the intent of the act; to create the water supply fund; to provide for the administration of the water supply fund; and to provide penalties,” by amending section 9 (MCL 325.1009), as amended by 2017 PA 91.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 9. (1) The department shall classify public water supplies, including water treatment and distribution systems at community supplies, with regard to size, type, location, and other physical conditions for the purpose of establishing the skill, knowledge, and experience that individuals need to maintain and operate the systems effectively.

(2) The director shall appoint an advisory board of examiners that shall assist the department in the examination of individuals as to their competency to operate water treatment systems and water distribution systems. The advisory board shall make recommendations to the department relative to the certification of those individuals.

(3) The membership of the advisory board consists of all of the following:

- (a) Two certified water treatment operators.
 - (b) Two certified water distribution operators.
 - (c) One superintendent or manager of a supplier of water.
 - (d) One representative of the administrative branch of a local governmental agency.
 - (e) Two members of the public at large.
 - (f) One professor of sanitary or environmental engineering at a university in this state.
- (4) A representative of the department shall be the nonvoting secretary for the board.

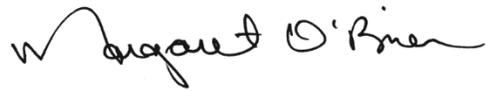
(5) For individuals meeting the requirements, the department shall issue certificates acknowledging their competency to operate a specified class of waterworks system or portion of waterworks system. The department may suspend or revoke a certificate as specified by rule.

(6) A public water supply must be under the supervision of a properly certified operator as specified in the rules.

(7) Operators certified under this act shall renew their certificates in accordance with the rules promulgated under this act, including mandatory continuing education or competency demonstration.

(8) In accordance with section 3110 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.3110, the department may conduct a program for training individuals seeking to be certified as operators under this section and shall administer operator certification programs for individuals seeking to be certified as operators under this section. Until October 1, 2025, the department may charge fees for these programs in accordance with section 3110 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.3110. The department shall transmit fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit into the operator training and certification fund created in section 3134 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.3134.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved _____

Governor